

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOL RPT CAPE TOWN 1239 SENT ACTION SECSTATE LAGOS INFO BONN,
DAR ES SALAAM, DURBAN, JOHANNESBURG, LONDON, LUSAKA, MAPUTO,
MOSCOW, PARIS, PRETORIA & USUN NEW YORK DTD 24 AUG 77

QUOTE:

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LAGOS FOR AMB YOUNG; DEPT PLS PASS SECRETARYS PARTY

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: IAEA, PARM, PINT, PORG, SF

SUBJ: VORSTER CALLS FOR END OF DOUBLE STANDARDS IN NUCLEAR
NON-PROLIFERATION FIELD

SUMMARY: IN PUBLIC ADDRESS AT CAPE TOWN CITY HALL EVENING OF
AUGUST 24, PRIME MINISTER VORSTER DENOUNCED "DOUBLE STANDARDS"
BEING APPLIED TO SOUTH AFRICA IN NUCLEAR FIELD, SCORED US
"FAILURE" TO LIVE UP TO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH SAG ON NUCLEAR
FUEL SUPPLY AND CITED SAG EXPULSION FROM IAEA LAST JUNE AS
CASTING DOUBT ON IAEA RELIABILITY AS BODY WHICH MUST OVERSEE
COMPLIANCE OF NPT SIGNATORIES. VORSTER SAID SAG STILL WILLING
DISCUSS NPT ADHERENCE BUT DISCRIMINATORY ACTIONS AGAINST SA
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MUST ALSO BE DISCUSSED AND RESOLVED. END SUMMARY

1. PRIME MINISTER VORSTER DELIVERED PUBLIC ADDRESS AT CAPE TOWN
CITY HALL EVENING OF AUGUST 24 WHICH FOLLOWED 2-DAY CONGRESS
OF CAPE BRANCH OF NATIONAL PARTY. HIGHLIGHTS OF SPEECH WERE
ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAJOR OUTLINES OF NP IDEAS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL
CHANGE (BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL) AND PRESENTATION OF SAG POSITION

REGARDING COOPERATION IN NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION.

2. VORSTER SAID SAG HAS FREQUENTLY AFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR THE IDEAL OF USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY ONLY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. IT HAS PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN SETTING UP OF SAFEGUARDS POLICY, HAS FOLLOWED RESPONSIBLE POLICIES WITH REGARD TO EXPORT OF ITS URANIUM, AND HAS HONORED ALL OBLIGATIONS UNDER IAEA. WHILE IT HAS NOT ACCEDED TO NPT, ALL EVIDENCE SHOWS, HE SAID, THAT SAG HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE.

3. VORSTER NOTED THAT SAG HAD OFFERED IN AUGUST 1976 TO PLACE ITS COMMERCIAL URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS. IAEA HAD PROVIDED DRAFT SAFEGUARD AGREEMENT IN FEBRUARY 1977. SAG COMPLETION OF QUESTIONNAIRE WAS BEING DELAYED PENDING FINAL DECISION ON SIZE OF PLANT. THIS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH DG OF IAEA. HOWEVER, ARTICLE 42 OF NPT PROVIDED THAT ALL SIGNATORIES AGREE TO EXCHANGE EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACEFUL USES. IT HAS BEEN SAG'S EXPERIENCE, HE SAID, THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE APPLIED TO SA. HE CITED, AMONG OTHER EXAMPLES OF DOUBLE STANDARDS, SA'S EXPULSION FROM IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND REPLACEMENT BY EGYPT AND "TREMENDOUS PRESSURE" ON SAG TO ADHERE TO NPT EVEN THOUGH 13 OF 34 MEMBERS OF BOARD HAVE NOT ADHERED. READING LIST OF THE 13, VORSTER PAUSED DRAMATICALLY AFTER NAMING FRANCE AND SAID IN NEAR WHISPER "ET TU, BRUTE?"

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4. VORSTER ALSO SAID SAG MUST BE INFLUENCED BY PERFORMANCE OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN KEEPING TO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. HE SAID USG HAD FAILED TO REPLY ON WHETHER IT WILL ISSUE LICENSE TO PERMIT SUPPLY OF FUEL RODS FOR EXPERIMENTAL NUCLEAR REACTOR EVEN THOUGH ORDERED AND PAID FOR TWO YEARS AGO. "BY WHAT RIGHT DO THEY PRESSURIZE US TO SIGN NPT, BY WHAT RIGHT DO THEY SINGLE OUT SOUTH AFRICA", HE ASKED RHETORICALLY. VORSTER SAID "JUST NOW" WHEN SOVIET UNION IS ACCUSING SA OF PLANNING A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION, THEY THEMSELVES ARE SETTING OFF ANOTHER ONE. IN EMOTIONAL WIND UP WHICH BROUGHT CROWD TO ITS FEET, VORSTER SAID "I SAY TO YOU IN ALL SERIOUSNESS AND HUMILITY, IF THESE THINGS CONTINUE, THE TIME WILL ARRIVE WHEN SOUTH AFRICA, SMALL AS IT IS, WILL HAVE NO OPTION BUT TO SAY TO THE WORLD - SO FAR AND NO FURTHER - NOW DO YOUR DAMNDEST".

5. ABOVE PASSAGE WAS DELIVERED WITH ALL OF VORSTER'S CONSIDERABLE ORATORICAL SKILL AND DREW FERVENT RESPONSE FROM HIS AUDIENCE DESPITE, OR POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF, ITS VERY AMBIGUITY. WHITE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, STANDARDS, DISCRIMINATION, TOSEC, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: O:JGUNDERSEN
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D770306-0671
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
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TAGS: PARM, PINT, PORC, SF, US, IAEA, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES)
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vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/499ce852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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